

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT[281]

Notice of Intended Action

Proposing rule making related to educator preparation program standards and providing an opportunity for public comment

The State Board of Education hereby proposes to amend Chapter 79, “Standards for Practitioner and Administrator Preparation Programs,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 256.7(3) and 256.16(3).

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, 2020 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2360 and House File 2359.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 79 outlines the standards and program requirements that all traditional educator preparation programs must meet in order to be approved to prepare educators in Iowa. Compliance with these standards is required and is evaluated during each educator preparation program’s approval review. The standards are also applied in an annual reporting system. This proposed rule making updates the standards to remain current with national standards for educator preparation and align with Board of Educational Examiners rules for licensure. This rule making also incorporates required elements of 2020 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2360 and House File 2359.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rule making would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the State Board for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 281—Chapter 4.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on September 15, 2020. Comments should be directed to:

Thomas Mayes
Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building, Second Floor
400 East 14th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0416
Phone: 515.242.5614
Fax: 515.242.5988
Email: thomas.mayes@iowa.gov

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views either orally or in writing will be held in person and via video conference as follows:

September 15, 2020
4 to 4:30 p.m.

State Board Room, Second Floor
Grimes State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa
Via video conference:
idoe.zoom.us/j/98138678227?pwd=NE11VUVDdEtTd29QbnlsaVhhdytXZz09

Persons who wish to make oral comments at the public hearing may be asked to state their names for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of this proposed rule making.

Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department and advise of specific needs by calling 515.281.5295.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule-making actions are proposed:

ITEM 1. Amend rule **281—79.2(256)**, definitions of “College/university supervisors” and “Unit,” as follows:

“*College/university supervisors*” means qualified employees or individuals contracted by the college or university offering ~~teacher educator~~ preparation who provide guidance and supervision to ~~teacher~~ candidates during the candidates’ clinical experiences in the schools.

“*Unit*” means the organizational entity within an institution with the responsibility of administering and delivering ~~the all~~ practitioner preparation ~~program(s) programs~~.

ITEM 2. Rescind the definition of “ELPS” in rule **281—79.2(256)**.

ITEM 3. Amend paragraph **79.13(4)“a”** as follows:

a. Entrance into the program ~~(for teacher education, this includes a preprofessional skills test offered by a nationally recognized testing service. Institutions must deny admission to any candidate who does not successfully meet the institution’s passing score requirement). If a unit chooses to use a preprofessional skills test from a nationally recognized testing service for admission into the program,~~ the unit must report passing rates and remediation measures annually to the department.

ITEM 4. Amend paragraph **79.14(7)“a”** as follows:

a. Includes a full-time experience for a minimum of 14 ~~consecutive~~ weeks in duration during the teacher candidate’s final year of the teacher preparation program.

ITEM 5. Amend subrule 79.15(2) as follows:

79.15(2) Each teacher candidate receives dedicated coursework related to the study of human relations, cultural competency, and diverse learners, such that the candidate is prepared to work with students from diverse groups, as defined in rule 281—79.2(256). The unit shall provide evidence that teacher candidates develop the ability to identify and meet the needs of all learners, including:

- a. Students from diverse ethnic, racial and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- b. Students with disabilities. This will include preparation in developing and implementing individualized education programs and behavioral intervention plans, preparation for educating individuals in the least restrictive environment and identifying that environment, and strategies that address difficult and violent student behavior and improve academic engagement and achievement.
- c. Students who are struggling with literacy, including those with dyslexia.
- d. Students who are gifted and talented.
- e. English language learners.
- f. Students who may be at risk of not succeeding in school. This preparation will include classroom management addressing high-risk behaviors including, but not limited to, behaviors related to substance abuse.

ITEM 6. Amend rule 281—79.16(256) as follows:

281—79.16(256) Administrator preparation clinical practice standard. The unit and its school partners shall provide clinical experiences that assist candidates in becoming successful school administrators in accordance with the following provisions.

~~**79.16(1)** The unit ensures that clinical experiences occurring in all locations are well-sequenced, purposeful, supervised by appropriately qualified personnel, monitored by the unit, and integrated into unit standards. These expectations are shared with candidates, supervisors and cooperating administrators.~~

a. Principal candidates successfully complete clinical experiences that provide candidates with opportunities to synthesize and apply the knowledge and skills identified in subrule 79.17(2) in ways that approximate the full range of responsibilities required of building-level leaders and enable them to promote the current and future success and well-being of each student and adult in their school.

b. Superintendent candidates successfully complete clinical experiences that provide candidates opportunities to synthesize and apply the knowledge and skills identified in subrule 79.17(3) in ways that approximate the full range of responsibilities required of district-level leaders and enable them to promote the current and future success and well-being of each student and adult in their district.

~~**79.16(2)** The unit ensures that clinical experiences occurring in all locations are coherent, authentic, sustained, and purposeful opportunities that are monitored by the unit. These expectations are shared with candidates, supervisors and cooperating administrators.~~

~~**79.16(2) 79.16(3)** Candidates are supervised by knowledgeable and qualified practitioners. The PK-12 school and the unit share responsibility for selecting, preparing, evaluating, supporting, evaluating, and retaining both:~~

- a. High-quality college/university supervisors, and
- b. High-quality cooperating administrators.

~~**79.16(3) 79.16(4)** Cooperating administrators and college/university supervisors share responsibility for evaluating the candidate's achievement of unit standards. Clinical experiences are structured to have multiple performance-based assessments at key points within the program to demonstrate candidates' attainment of unit standards.~~

~~**79.16(4) 79.16(5)** Clinical experiences include all of the following criteria:~~

- a. A minimum of 400 hours during the candidate's preparation program.
- b. Take place with appropriately licensed cooperating administrators in state-approved schools or educational facilities.
- c. Take place in multiple high-quality educational settings that include diverse populations and students of different age groups.

~~d. Include minimum documented expectations and responsibilities for cooperating administrators, school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, or AEAs and for higher education supervising faculty members.~~

~~e. Include prescribed minimum expectations and responsibilities of the candidate for ethical performance of both leadership and management tasks. Provide opportunities for candidates to apply the knowledge, skills, and dispositions identified in subrules 79.17(2) and 79.17(3).~~

~~f. The involvement of the administrator candidate in relevant responsibilities to include demonstration of the capacity to facilitate the use of assessment data in affecting student learning.~~

~~g. Involve the candidate in professional meetings and other school-based activities directed toward the improvement of teaching and learning.~~

~~h. Involve the candidate in communication and interaction with parents or guardians, community members, faculty and staff, and cooperating administrators in the school.~~

79.16(5) 79.16(6) The institution annually delivers one or more professional development opportunities for cooperating administrators to define the objectives of the field experience, review the responsibilities of the cooperating administrator, build skills in coaching and mentoring, and provide the cooperating administrator other information and assistance the institution deems necessary. The professional development opportunities incorporate feedback from participants and utilize appropriate delivery strategies.

79.16(6) 79.16(7) The institution shall enter into a written contract with the cooperating school districts that provide field experiences for administrator candidates.

ITEM 7. Amend rule 281—79.17(256) as follows:

281—79.17(256) Administrator knowledge, skills, and dispositions standard. Administrator candidates shall demonstrate the content, pedagogical, and professional knowledge, skills and dispositions necessary to help all students learn in accordance with the following provisions.

79.17(1) Each educational administrator program shall define program standards (aligned with current NELP standards) and embed them in coursework and clinical experiences at a level appropriate for a novice administrator.

79.17(2) Each principal candidate demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to:

a. Collaboratively lead, design, and implement a school mission, vision, and process for continuous improvement that reflects a core set of values and priorities that include data use, technology, equity, diversity, digital citizenship, and community. (Mission, Vision, and Improvement)

b. Advocate for ethical decisions and cultivate and enact professional norms. (Ethics and Professional Norms)

c. Develop and maintain a supportive, equitable, culturally responsive, and inclusive school culture. (Equity, Inclusiveness, and Cultural Responsiveness)

d. Evaluate, develop, and implement coherent systems of curriculum, instruction, data systems, supports, and assessment. (Learning and Instruction)

e. Strengthen student learning, support school improvement, and advocate for the needs of the school and community. (Community and External Leadership)

f. Improve management, communication, technology, school-level governance, and operation systems to develop and improve data-informed and equitable school resource plans and to apply laws, policies, and regulations. (Operations and Management)

g. Build the school's professional capacity, engage staff in the development of a collaborative professional culture, and improve systems of staff supervision, evaluation, support, and professional learning. (Building Professional Capacity)

79.17(3) Each superintendent candidate demonstrates competency in all of the following professional core curricula:

a. Collaboratively lead, design, and implement a district mission, vision, and process for continuous improvement that reflects a core set of values and priorities that include data use,

technology, values, equity, diversity, digital citizenship, and community. (District Mission, Vision, and Improvement)

b. Advocate for ethical decisions and cultivate professional norms and culture. (Ethics and Professional Norms)

c. Develop and maintain a supportive, equitable, culturally responsive, and inclusive district culture. (Equity, Inclusiveness, and Cultural Responsiveness)

d. Evaluate, design, cultivate, and implement coherent systems of curriculum, instruction, data systems, supports, assessment, and instructional leadership. (Learning and Instruction)

e. Understand and engage families, communities, and other constituents in the work of schools and the district and to advocate for district, student, and community needs. (Community and External Leadership)

f. Develop, monitor, evaluate, and manage data-informed and equitable district systems for operations, resources, technology, and human capital management. (Operations and Management)

g. Cultivate relationships, lead collaborative decision making and governance, and represent and advocate for district needs in broader policy conversations. (Policy, Governance, and Advocacy)

79.17(2) 79.17(4) Each new administrator candidate successfully completes the appropriate evaluator training provided by a state-approved evaluator trainer.

79.17(3) 79.17(5) Each administrator candidate demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to support the implementation of the Iowa core.

79.17(4) 79.17(6) Each administrator candidate demonstrates, within specific coursework and clinical experiences ~~related to the study of human relations, cultural competency, and diverse learners, that the candidate is prepared, the ability to work~~ develop and maintain a supportive, equitable, culturally responsive, and inclusive district culture with students and staff from diverse groups, as defined in rule 281—79.2(256). The unit shall provide evidence that administrator candidates develop the ability to meet the needs of all learners, as well as ensuring teachers meet the needs of diverse learners, including:

a. Students from diverse ethnic, racial and socioeconomic backgrounds.

b. Students with disabilities. This will include preparation in developing and implementing individualized education programs and behavioral intervention plans, preparation for educating individuals in the least restrictive environment and identifying that environment, and strategies that address difficult and violent student behavior and improve academic engagement and achievement.

c. Students who are struggling with literacy, including those with dyslexia.

~~e. d.~~ d. Students who are gifted and talented.

~~d. e.~~ e. English language learners.

~~e. f.~~ f. Students who may be at risk of not succeeding in school. This preparation will include classroom management addressing high-risk behaviors including, but not limited to, behaviors related to substance abuse.

79.17(5) 79.17(7) Each administrator candidate meets all requirements established by the board of educational examiners for any endorsement for which the candidate is recommended. Programs shall submit curriculum exhibit sheets for approval by the board of educational examiners and the department.

ITEM 8. Amend subrule 79.21(2) as follows:

79.21(2) Each candidate demonstrates, within specific coursework and clinical experiences related to the study of human relations, cultural competency, and diverse learners, that the candidate is prepared to work with students from diverse groups, as defined in rule 281—79.2(256). The unit shall provide evidence that candidates develop the ability to meet the needs of all learners, including:

a. Students from diverse ethnic, racial and socioeconomic backgrounds.

b. Students with disabilities. This will include preparation in developing and implementing individualized education programs and behavioral intervention plans, preparation for educating individuals in the least restrictive environment and identifying that environment, and strategies that address difficult and violent student behavior and improve academic engagement and achievement.

c. Students who are struggling with literacy, including those with dyslexia.

- ~~e.~~ d. Students who are gifted and talented.
- ~~d.~~ e. English language learners.
- ~~e.~~ f. Students who may be at risk of not succeeding in school. This preparation will include classroom management addressing high-risk behaviors including, but not limited to, behaviors related to substance abuse.